

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Governor's Office, Attorney General, Medicaid To Return To Sillers Building This Fall

JACKSON, Mississippi – Governor Haley Barbour announced today that the Governor's office, Attorney General's office and Division of Medicaid will relocate to the Sillers Building when renovations are completed this fall.

Governor Barbour said other agencies currently occupying space in the Woolfolk Building will remain there, including the Mississippi Development Authority and Department of Finance and Administration.

The Office of the Governor, which was recently expanded by the Legislature to include the Katrina-related Office of Recovery and Renewal, will be housed on the 18th and 19th floors of Sillers. The Attorney General and Medicaid will occupy the first through 17th floors. The move is tentatively planned for November.

In November 2005 Governor Barbour announced he had discussed the history of the Sillers Building, a High Street landmark, with former governors who said it was and is the most appropriate building in the Capitol complex for housing the Governor's office. He said he concurred with the opinions of these former governors and would move the governor's office and staff, along with the Mississippi Development Authority and Department of Finance and Administration, back to Sillers.

After further review, he has determined to proceed with the original tenant plans for the Sillers Building, which includes the Governor's office, Attorney General and Medicaid, while making the necessary modifications to accommodate the additional need for space for the Office of Recovery and Renewal.

In addition to renovation of the Sillers Building, the overall Sillers Block Project includes construction of two new facilities – the New Justice Court Building and a parking

facility. The project also includes total removal of the Ike Sanford Building, which has been accomplished, and removal of the Gartin Building to the basement level. The total cost for completion of the Sillers Block Project will be approximately \$110 million, including an estimated \$1 million to meet the needs of the Katrina recovery office.

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